

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 IO-10 /077 W

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R 241150Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2980

INFO AMEMBASSY BANKKOK

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USDEL JEC PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 2009

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TH, VN

SUBJECT: DRV GIVES UP ON NEW THAI GOVERNMENT

REF: SAIGON 1507

1. HANOI HAS APPARENTLY HEARD ENOUGH OF THE STATEMENTS OF NEW THAI PRIME MINISTER SENI PRAMOJ'S GOVERNMENT TO CONCLUDE THAT SENI OFFERS LITTLE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS RTG'S IN AREAS OF INTEREST TO THE VIETNAMESE COMMUNISTS. WHILE THE DRV HAS NOT YET STATED A GOVERNMENT POSITION, OFFICIAL MEDIA ARE UNIVERSALLY CONDEMNATORY.

2. FOLLOWING SENI'S 16 FEB NEWS CONFERENCE, RADIO HANOI CHANGED THAT HIS "VIEWPOINT REGARDING THE U.S. MILITARY BASES IN THAILAND IS A STEREOTYPE OF A (22 JAN) STATEMENT BY FORMER THAI FOREIGN MINISTER CHARUNPHAN," WHICH "PROVES THAT THE NEW THAI GOVERNMENT IS STILL PURSUING AN OLD-FASHIONED POLICY."

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3. NHAN DAN OF 21 FEB, NOTING NEW DEFMIN THAWIT SENIWONG'S STATEMENT TO THE PRESS OF 19 FEB, CONCLUDED THAT HIS COMMENTS FAVORING CONTINUED US MILITARY PRESENCE IN THAILAND "WHERE RATHER SURPRISING AS THEY REMINDED ONE OF THE STAND OF THE FORMER MILITARY RULERS WHO WERE OVERTHROWN IN OCTOBER 1973."

4. A RADIO HANOI COMMENTARY OF 22 FEB, CITING THE ABOVE RTG STATEMENTS AND LISTING "REAL ACTS OF THE PRESENT THAI AUTHORITIES" (SOME DATING BACK TO "EARLY IN JANUARY"), ASSERTS THAT RTG EXPRESSIONS OF WILLINGNESS TO ESTABLISH FRIENDSHIP WITH NVN AND OTHERS ARE "DECITFUL ALLEGATIONS" INTENDED MERELY TO "SOOTHE AND SIDETRACK THE THAI PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE." THE COMMENTARY CONCLUDES THAT "THE NEW THAI ADMINISTRATION IS STILL PLUNGING DEEP ALONG THE RUTS OF THE OVERTURNED CART OF THE PREVIOUS THAI MILITARY JUNTA WHICH WAS TOPPLED BY THE THAI PEOPLE IN OCTOBER 1973."
MARTIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, COMMUNISTS, SPEECHES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchandr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SAIGON02009
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750064-0759
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750218/aaaaaqet.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 SAIGON 1507
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchandr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <07 OCT 2003 by buchandr>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DRV GIVES UP ON NEW THAI GOVERNMENT
TAGS: PFOR, TH, VN, (SENI PRAMOJ)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006